**Attendees of Zoom Dec 14, 2022 Bd Mtg.:** Jack Press, President//Dave Kirby, Treasurer//Kirk Prather, Secretary(computer microphone not working, so only zoom video & sound were working for Kirk’s Zoom software computer window) //Ben Marder, VP Membership & Ch Development//Tom Raffety, VP Music Performance & Chorus Director)//Jeffery Bunch, Chorus Manager & Asst. Director//Beth Karlin, VP Marketing & PR//Bob Karlin, VP Communications// Mark Singer, VP Programs-absent//Mark Wolf, Past President-absent//Kathie Edwards, Bd Member at Large-absent// Both Phil Lockwood & Ron Malkin, Bd-Members-at Large, were absent. (Note Jack Press, President, noted that 8 board members present qualified as BD meeting attendance quorum)

**Old Business Dec 14,2022 Mtg**

**Secretary --Bd Minutes —Kirk Prather, Secretary,** Because Kirk’s computer microphone was not working for the Dec 14 Zoom Bd Mtg., Kirk was not able to read out-loud his late-posted Nov Bd Mtg minutes to the Dec 14 Zoom Bd Mtg. attendees as Jack requested. Thus the Nov 11-16-2022 Bd minutes were not able to be approved at the Dec 14 Bd meeting.

**Treasurer Report:** **Dave Kirby**: Chapter as of 12-14-2022, has $5,488.00 in our Chase Bank operation checking account. Estimated unpaid music royalty expenses for Nov show of - $700 leave $4788.00 spendable in checking account. Note also Chapter has $4,000.00 in Chase Bank Savings acct. to use if necessary for potential emergencies and important projects. Tom asked Dave & Board Members if a more easily read report could be made with larger letter & number size? Everyone thought that either Dave or Tom should be able to increase text print size on the EXCEL software.

**Discussion of VP’s Posted Report or related issues of** **Membership, Music & Performance, Chorus Mgr., Chapter Program, & Communications:**

**Ben Marder, VP Membership**, There were no Board verbal comments about Ben’s posted report summarizing the big membership events for year 2022. However, Ben was asked to answer & discuss questions & plans about the chorus member candidate, Jonathon Burns, Bass. Ben reported that Jonathan has passed his first audition requirement of singing the Bass part of a Polecat song in a quartet singing the polecat song. Ben also confirmed that Jonathon did not always attend our final Chapter rehearsals for our chapter Nov 19 show, and that Jonathan in December recently sang in a local LA Christmas concert of another LA chorus. Ben also related that Jonathon told Ben he would not be rehearsing with our chapter chorus very much in January because Jonathan planned to travel & sing with this same LA chorus to sing a few vocal chorus concerts in Italy,& had paid his travel fees and arranged time off his job during his absence. Tom Raffety added that Tom had been told by Jonathan that he had signed up to Join a U.S. Military Service in May, when he will permanently leave Southern California for training and future military service assignments.

Everyone agreed that Tom & Ben need to confirm Jonathan’s 2023 personal time plans in writing from Jonathan and check if Jonathan is available or not to sing in our chapter May ice-cream social show.

**Tom Raffety, VP Music & Performance**  In the absence of urgent questions regarding Tom’s written posted report, Tom asked to verbally deliver to the Board Members his latest suggestions and ideas to change rehearsals in response to almost unanimous member complaints: 1)“singing in the chorus wasn’t fun anymore” and 2) “some singers were concerned they weren’t developing Barbershop quartet and chorus skills very fast as a Barbershop chorus or quartet singer” Tom indicated that most of the Music Team members seemed to agree.

Tom’s proposed **Rehearsal Remedy #1: Reduce 2 Major Chorus Show Rehearsal Preparations in 2023 & Cancel Holiday November Show**  (Have May “Ice cream social” show, since majority of show songs will be sung by chapter and guest quartets, and significantly reduces needed rehearsal hours for the chorus.)

In the following Board member discussions of Tom’s proposals, many Board members spoke up strongly disagreeing against cancelling the Holiday Show because:

1) most of our experienced chorus and quartet singers already know their song parts of most of our most popular and familiar Christmas songs based on many years of singing these songs repeatedly, including our chapter annually-sung 2 Hanakah songs.

2) Chapter chorus and chapter quartet rehearsal time required of known familiar Holiday songs is typically about polishing up songs we already know from memory, and thus require a much smaller fraction of rehearsal time than learning & memorizing new unfamiliar Holiday songs.

3)Our 3 chapter quartets could each sing several of these Holiday songs on a holiday show, greatly reducing the number of chapter chorus-performed songs on the program.

4) All three of the above proposed actions also prepare both our chorus and quartet members for performing Holiday program entertainment songs that we can sell to Retirement homes, Hosts of both persons and businesses that need to hire entertainment for Hosting Holiday parties, sell Holiday entertainment to Senior Centers, Merchants, Hospitals, Clubs etc.

5) Holiday Entertainment for sale is one of the largest vocal singing selling opportunities of the year. Why wouldn’t our chapter want to try harder selling it? It might be our the easiest for-hire performance to sell.

**Tom’s proposed 2nd Boring Rehearsal Remedy For 2023** Split weekly rehearsals into two parts**:** 1st half practice/learn songs and 2nd half rehearsal devoted to more fun learning activities, such as singing tags, developing trial quartets to test sound blend,testing out every singer to sing with different rotating trial quartet part members, and other fun exercises like demonstrating breathing exercises, testing quartet blend exercises to maximize chord ring. Etc.

**Tom’s proposed 3rd Remedy to lack of fun & excitement** is have our choruses visit other chapter choruses or have shared chapter picnics---our chapter or one of our quartets offer to sing a couple of songs and have our hosts reciprocate to sing a couple of songs to us. Draw names for mixing quartet singers or mixing octet singers from both chapters. etc.

Bob Karlin also reminded the Board that they needed to develop some action items to solicit our chapter chorus members to supply names with contact information of friends & acquaintances they believe might be good potential buyers of chapter show tickets, or for hiring chapter quartet serenades.

**Report due on status of assigned Action Item #1 assigned to Ben Marder at September** **Bd meeting** when Ben agreed that our Meetup software online published schedule of chorus rehearsal dates is not being updated for cancelled chapter chorus rehearsals. Ben volunteered to get help & develop written procedures & assigned responsibility to keep Meetup rehearsal schedules current.

Program VP Report, Mark Singer posted written report summarizing chapter’s recent joint picnic event with Santa Monica Oceanaires chapter, and Mark made a short verbal update to the Board describing the many VHS chorus members commenting to Mark how much they enjoyed our joint picnic and sing-out with the Santa Monica Oceanaires Chorus in Veterans Park in Santa Monica on Oct 22.

**December Schedule:** Music Team Meeting Thurs January 12, 2022, and Zoom Board Meeting Wed Jan 18,2023.

The following chapter officer term-serving date table updated for January 2020-2022 Board Members:

Board Members 2020 2021 2022

President Jack Press Jack Press Jack Press 1st of 2yrs

Past President Shelly Herman Mark Wolf Mark Wolf 1st  of 2 yrs Secretary Kirk Prather Kirk Prather Kirk Prather 2nd Yr

Treasurer Dave Kirby Dave Kirby Dave Kirby 1st, 2yrs

VP Communications Bob Karlin Bob Karlin Bob Karlin 1st 2yrs

VP Music Performance Tom Raffety Tom Raffety Tom Raffety 2nd Yr

VP Membership, Chapter Devel’mt Ben Marder Ben Marder Ben Marder 1st 2yrs

VP Programming Mark Singer Mark Singer Mark Singer 2ndYr

VP Marketing Ross Brown Beth Karlin Beth Karlin 2nd Yr

Board Member at Large#1 Kathy Edwards Kathy Ed/Ron Malkin Ron Malkin 1st 2yrs

Board Member at Large#2 Rochelle Herman Phil Lockwood Phil Lockwood 2ndyr

\*Chorus Mgr is not elected Jeffery Bunch\* Jeffery Bunch\* Jeffery Bunch\*